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Ex. 4 - CBI

DATE: March 15, 2012

TO: Kelley Chase, EPA Region 3 OSC
Cynthia Caporale, EPA Region 3 OASQA

THROUGH: Ex. 4 - CBI

FROM: Ex. 4 - CBI

SUBJECT: VERIFICATION/COMPLETENESS CHECK – DIMOCK, PA LABORATORY DATA – Revision 1
NEL Reports Full Micro data package wk3_batch3

INTRODUCTION

On March 14, 2012, a review of the case narratives and corresponding certificates of analysis from Northeastern Environmental Laboratories (NEL) (Full Micro Report Posted Mar 08) was reviewed at the SERAS facility in accordance with the Follow-Up Verification/Completeness Check agreed upon during our teleconference on Wednesday 2/8/12.

The assumptions for this review include the following: 1) Case narratives from the Regional labs and/or subcontract labs have been reviewed in accordance with Regional or Environmental Services Assessment Team (ESAT) protocols and contain all pertinent and complete information to conduct the completeness check. SERAS will base this review on the information provided by the laboratory and not on an actual data package; and 2) SERAS will relay any "red" flags to the EPA R3 personnel to resolve and determine data usability.

OBSERVATIONS

In accordance with Table 1 – Field and QC Sampling Summary (Rev01 - 2/3/12), Table 2 – Sample Analytical Requirements Summary (Rev01 – 2/3/12), Methods for Groundwater and Surface Water Samples and Standard Methods for the examination of water and wastewater (SM 9222B, SM 9221E and SM 9215C) the following observations were noted and need to be clarified/resolved.

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1. The field blank for 2/6/12 (FB11) had a plate count of 1 CFU/1mL for duplicate plate A and <1CFU/1mL for duplicate plate B for the HPC analysis. The laboratory noted that the plate A result may have been due to laboratory contamination. There is no criterion to qualify samples based on field blank contamination. Since all data have been qualified unusable (R) based on the absence of a sterility check (method blank), no further qualifications are necessary.
2. The HPC result for sample HW51 is reported as 12 CFU/1mL. The bench sheet for this sample indicates a result of 124 CFU/1mL. . Since all data have been qualified unusable (R) based on the absence of a sterility check (method blank), no further qualifications are necessary. It is recommended that an updated laboratory report be obtained for this sample with the correct plate count of 124 CFU/mL.

cc: Ex. 4 - CBI
John Gilbert, ERT WAM
Gary Newhart, ERT WAM
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